

508 Web Accessibility

Bruce Bailey – Access Board

Kol Peterson – EPA

Laura Keen – Library of Congress



Accessibility vs. Section 508

What is Section 508?

- Section 508 provides accessibility standards for all information technology. Section 508 covers all information technology, computer software, hardware, and documentation.

What is Web Accessibility?

- Web accessibility is the degree to which a web site's content can be accessed regardless of an individual's disability.
- Disabilities that can create a challenge for people accessing the web, include aging, mobility impairments, deafness, blindness, low-vision, cognitive



Accessibility vs. Section 508

What is the difference between Section 508 Compliance and Web Accessibility?

The **Section 508** technical standards say your web site has to satisfy sixteen specific items for web accessibility. Section 508 does not directly apply to private sector web sites or to public sites which are not U.S. Federal agency sites.

Web Accessibility is a broader term that encompasses making sure a web site is usable for people with disabilities as well as meeting the standards. A web site is accessible if it can be used as effectively by people with disabilities as by those without.



Reviewing a Web site for Accessibility

Fandango.com

- What is the main purpose/function of the site?
- Do all users have a way to perform or gain access to the main purpose/content of the site?

Purpose of Fandango.com

- Find movie theater near you
- Read Movie Reviews
- Find movie Schedules
- Purchase movie tickets



Tools for Review

- Firefox – Web Developer toolbar
- Firebug
- Internet Explorer – hover to see if alt text is available
- Computer keyboard
- Screen Reader

- WAVE from Web Accessibility In Mind
 - wave.webaim.org

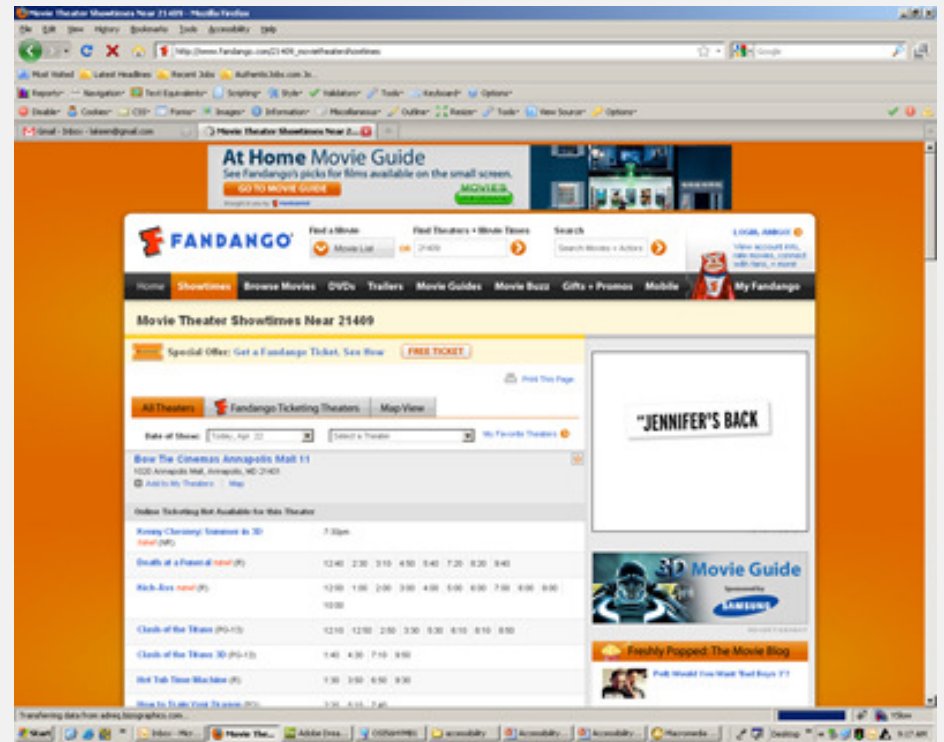
- “Web Accessibility Tool Bar” from Vision Australia
 - Versions for IE and FireFox
 - visionaustralia.org.au/ais/toolbar/



First Steps

Is the content organized in a way that is easy to understand?
Does the site appear cluttered and confusing?

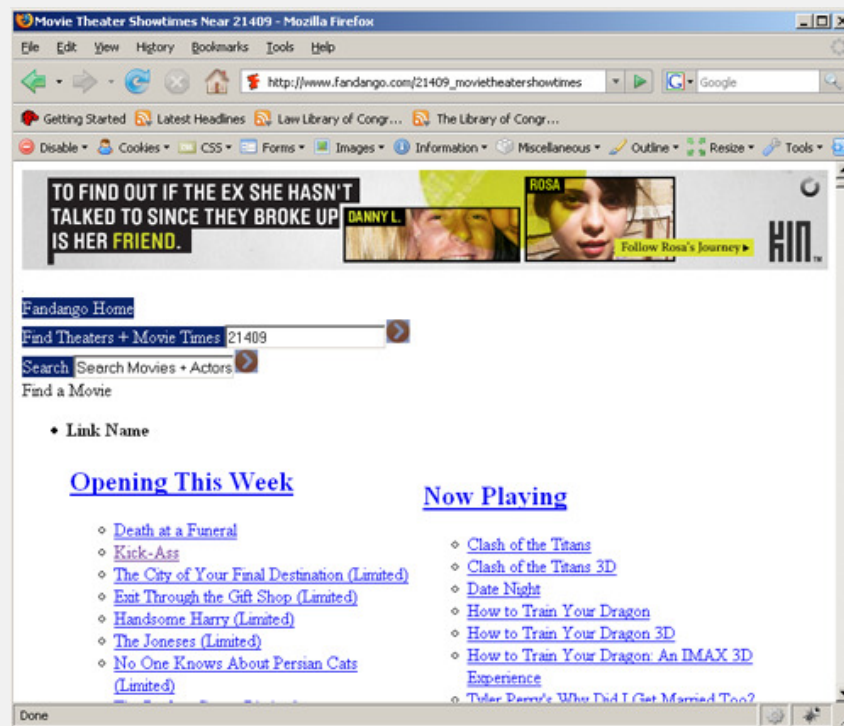
- Using the Tab and Enter keys
 - I try to navigate the site with the keyboard.
- Can I follow the Tab focus – does tab order make sense and are key sections not accessible via the tab key?
- Is any hidden content accessible using the keyboard?



Turn off CSS/JavaScript

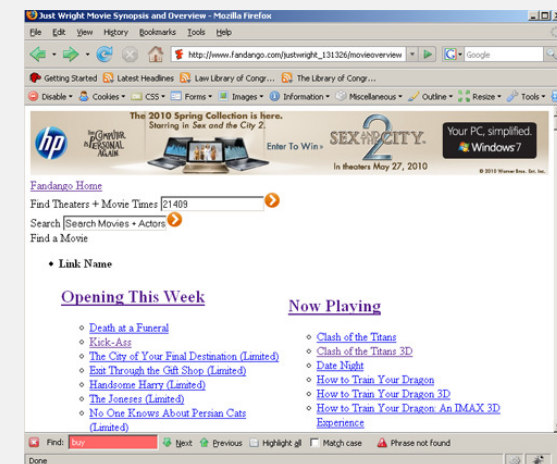
If I turn off the CSS and JavaScript can I get to all of the content on the site?

- Notice that this page content is now drastically different than the page by default. The pages' primary navigation, all movie schedules and the ability to get to the ticket order form go away.



Movie Detail Page

- http://www.fandango.com/justwright_131326/movieoverview
- Notice that the movie detail content is not the first thing that you see. You must scroll down through unwanted content to get the movie's details.



Fandango.com – Audio and Video Content

- This site includes video and audio content.
- If the multimedia files are embedded using JavaScript is the transcript available and accessible?
- Does the video have captions and a text transcript if applicable?
- If not does the description provide enough detail for the user who is unable to access the video content?



YouTube - Accessibility

The Future Will Be Captioned: Improving Accessibility on YouTube

Today, we are opening up auto-captions to all YouTube users.

There will even be a “request Processing” button for un-captioned videos that any video owner can click on if they want to speed up the availability of auto-captions. It will take some time to process all the available video, so here are some things to keep in mind...”



- <http://youtube-global.blogspot.com/2010/03/future-will-be-captioned-improving.html>



Features required for Accessible Audio/Video content

- Display captions/subtitles
- Display multiple languages of captions
- Ability to switch the language
- Captions are screen reader inaccessible
- Transcript must be screen reader accessible
- Captions can be toggled on/off
- Controls are keyboard accessible
- Controls are screen reader/magnifier accessible
- Video is paused by default for screen reader/screen magnifier users



Tools for Review

- Firefox
 - Web Developer toolbar
 - Firebug
 - Internet Explorer
 - hover to see if alt text is available
 - Computer keyboard
 - Screen Reader
-
- WAVE from Web Accessibility In Mind
 - “Web Accessibility Tool Bar” from Vision Australia
 - “The Future Will Be Captioned” (Google YouTube)



508 Refresh

Un-Conference session on 508 Refresh

Wednesday (4/28), 9:00

Public Hearing on Refresh of ICT Standards

Wednesday May 12th, 9 am, Embassy Suites
DC Convention Center

www.Access-Board.gov for more details

